

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Applicants thank Examiner Fletcher for the helpful and courteous discussion of November 6, 2006. During the discussion, it was agreed that the prior art relied upon by the Office, i.e., Yukinobu, does not disclose or suggest any embodiment wherein the compression of a layer containing functional particles occurs at the same time as the transfer of the layer containing functional particles. In fact, in contrast to the presently claimed invention, the PET film (e.g., support) of Yukinobu is not even in contact with the prior art particles until after the prior art particles are compressed. Thus, the compression of the prior art particles takes place independently and prior to any transfer of the prior art compressed particles to a PET film (e.g., a support).

For example, Yukinobu describes the 15th Embodiment as follows:

A transparent conductive layer thus obtained was rolled under a linear pressure of 100 kgf/cm by using two steel rollers which were plated with hard chromium and had a diameter 150 mm. Then, a transparent conductive film was formed by heating the transparent conductive layer in air at 400°C for 30 minutes and then in a nitrogen atmosphere at 400°C for 25 minutes. This transparent conductive film was coated with the overcoat liquid 3 (see Table 1) containing an ultraviolet-setting resin by using a wire bar having a diameter of 0.3 mm, and dried at room temperature for 5 minutes and at 50°C for 10 minutes. A baseboard on which the transparent conductive film and the overcoat layer were formed as described above was bonded to a PET film (100 μ m thick) selected as the base plate member.

The bonding was carried out under a linear pressure of 2 kgf/cm by using a steel roller. After the bonding, the PET film which was treated for use as the base plate member was bonded by performing setting for 15 seconds with ultraviolet light at an intensity of 150 mW/cm² emitted from a metal halide lamp, and the baseboard was peeled off for offsetting of the transparent conductive ITO film to the base plate member, thereby manufacturing a transparent conductive substrate.

Therefore, Yukinobu discloses a process wherein a conductive layer is first compressed under high pressure (i.e., 100 kgf/cm) and a UV setting resin and a PET film are

subsequently applied thereto. In the 15th Embodiment of Yukinobu, the compressing (e.g., a compressing at a compression force of at least 44 N/mm²) occurs independently and before the transfer of the compressed layer of particles to any second film (see column 13, lines 34-60 of Yokinobu).

Applicants submit that the presently claimed subject matter is not obvious in view of Yukinobu because Yukinobu does not disclose or suggest all of the present claim limitations.

Applicants submit that all now-pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the mailing of a Notice of Allowance.

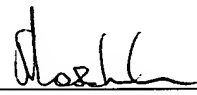
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